



**MEETING:** Committee of the Whole

**DATE:** Wednesday, January 27, 2021

*Reference No. COW – 11/52*

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**OPEN SESSION in S.H. Blake Memorial Auditorium at 5:02 p.m.**

Committee of the Whole - Special Session (2021 Capital and Operating Budget)  
Vice Chair: Councillor B. Hamilton

**ELECTRONIC PARTICIPATION: OFFICIALS:**

Mayor B. Mauro  
Councillor A. Aiello  
Councillor M. Bentz  
Councillor S. Ch'ng  
Councillor A. Foulds  
Councillor C. Fraser  
Councillor B. Hamilton  
Councillor R. Johnson  
Councillor B. McKinnon  
Councillor K. Oliver  
Councillor A. Ruberto  
Councillor Peng You

Ms. K. Power, City Clerk  
Ms. L. Lavoie, Committee Coordinator

**OFFICIALS - ELECTRONIC PARTICIPATION:**

Mr. N. Gale, City Manager  
Ms. L. Evans, General Manager – Corporate Services & Long Term Care  
Ms. K. Robertson, General Manager – Community Services  
Ms. K. Lewis, Director – Corporate Strategic Services  
Ms. K. Ortgiese, Director – Human Resources & Corporate Safety  
Ms. E. Westover, Director – Financial Services  
Ms. L. Paradis, Manager – Budgets & Long-Term Planning  
Ms. K. Sinclair, Accountant  
Mr. G. Broere, Director – Facilities, Fleet & Energy Management  
Ms. L. Prentice, Director – Recreation & Culture  
Ms. A. Morrison, Manager – Central Support  
Mr. B. Loroff, Manager – Transit Services  
Ms. V. DeGiacomo-Zwadesh, Energy Analyst

***DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST***

***CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA***

Confirmation of Agenda - Committee of the Whole - Reconvened Special Session - January 27, 2021

MOVED BY: Councillor Aldo Ruberto  
SECONDED BY: Councillor Brian McKinnon

WITH RESPECT to the January 27, 2021 Committee of the Whole – Reconvened Special Session meeting, we recommend that the agenda as printed, including any additional information and new business, be confirmed.

CARRIED

***UNFINISHED BUSINESS***

Unfinished business from the January 21, 2021 Committee of the Whole - Special Session meeting.

***REPORTS OF MUNICIPAL OFFICERS***

**Proposed 2021 Capital and Operating Budget**

Report R 1/2021 (Corporate Services & Long Term Care - Financial Services) relative to the proposed 2021 Capital and Operating Budget, was printed in the January 19, 2021 Committee of the Whole - Special Session agenda.

Memorandum from Ms. L. Paradis, Manager – Budgets & Long-Term Planning, dated December 16, 2020 attaching detailed agendas for January 19, 21, 27 and February 2, 2021 meetings, 2021 Budget Executive Summary, 2021 Tax Supported Operating and Capital Budget, and 2021 Rate Supported Operating & Capital Budget, distributed separately on Monday, December 21, 2020.

Memorandum from Ms. L. Paradis, Manager – Budgets & Long-Term Planning, dated January 14, 2021 attaching a list of 40 one-time cost reduction items for Council’s consideration to reduce the estimated impact of COVID-19 in 2021, sorted by Special Committee of the Whole meeting date, distributed separately on Thursday, January 14, 2021.

Memorandum from Ms. L. Paradis, Manager – Budgets & Long-Term Planning, dated January 15, 2021 containing proposed 2021 Budget amendments, distributed separately on Friday, January 22, 2021.

Memorandum from Mr. G. Broere, Director – Facilities, Fleet & Energy Management, dated January 25, 2021 containing information requested at the January 21, 2021 Committee of the Whole – Special Session meeting, relative to the Whalen Building, distributed separately on Monday, January 25, 2021.

Memorandum from Ms. L. Paradis, Manager – Budgets & Long-Term Planning, dated January 25, 2021 relative to revised estimated 2020 Safe Restart funding available for 2021, distributed separately on Monday, January 25, 2021.

Memorandum from Ms. L. Paradis, Manager – Budgets & Long-Term Planning, dated January 22, 2021 containing 2021 Budget Amendments as approved by Committee of the Whole, distributed separately on Tuesday, January 26, 2021.

## ***CAPITAL AND OPERATING BUDGET REVIEW***

### **TAB 7 - OUTSIDE BOARDS**

#### **Waterfront District BIA**

Mr. J. Calonego, Treasurer – Waterfront District BIA appeared before Committee via MS Teams and responded to questions.

#### **Victoria Avenue BIA**

Mr. J. Hupka, Vice Chair – Victoria Avenue BIA appeared before Committee via MS Teams and responded to questions.

#### **Amending Motion - Victoria Ave BIA**

Memorandum from Ms. L. Paradis, Manager – Budgets & Long-Term Planning, dated January 26, 2021 containing a Victoria Ave BIA proposed budget amendment, distributed separately on Wednesday, January 27, 2021.

MOVED BY: Councillor Aldo Ruberto  
SECONDED BY: Councillor Peng You

WITH RESPECT to Report R 1/2021 (Corporate Services and Long Term Care - Financial Services) Proposed 2021 Operating and Capital Budget we recommend that Business Improvement Area levy for Victoria Avenue B.I.A. be reduced to \$30,000;

AND THAT the contribution to the Victoria Avenue B.I.A. from the municipal tax levy be reduced to \$30,000.

CARRIED

**Amending Motion - Victoria Ave BIA Tree Planting**

MOVED BY: Councillor Andrew Foulds  
SECONDED BY: Councillor Aldo Ruberto

WITH RESPECT to Report R 1/2021 (Corporate Services and Long Term Care - Financial Services) Proposed 2021 Operating and Capital Budget we recommend that the Parks and Open Spaces budget be increased by \$30,000 to provide for tree planting on Archibald Street and Brodie Street.

CARRIED

**Community Economic Development Commission**

Mr. E. Zakrewski, CEO - Community Economic Development Commission appeared before Committee via MS Teams and responded to questions.

At the request of the Vice Chair, Councillor A. Ruberto assumed the Chair.

**Amending Motion - Recommendation #5 Reduction in Contribution to Reserve Fund – CEDC**

Memorandum from Councillor B. Hamilton, dated January 25, 2021 containing a motion relative to Administration's list of one time options to reduce 2021 Covid-19 impacts, distributed separately on Wednesday, January 27, 2021.

MOVED BY: Councillor Brian Hamilton  
SECONDED BY: Councillor Albert Aiello

WITH RESPECT to the Memorandum from Councillor B. Hamilton dated January 25, 2021, we recommend that the following one time reduction provided by Administration be approved from the List of One Time Options to Reduce 2021 Covid-19 Impacts;

- Recommendation #5 - \$109,000 – Corporate – Reduction in Contribution to Reserve Fund – Community Economic Development Commission (CEDC)

AND THAT the savings be applied to the Stabilization Reserve Fund as one time savings for 2021.

LOST

**Amending Motion - Recommendation #38 One Time COVID-19 Costs – CEDC**

MOVED BY: Councillor Brian Hamilton  
SECONDED BY: Councillor Albert Aiello

WITH RESPECT to the Memorandum from Councillor B. Hamilton dated January 25, 2021, we recommend that the following one time reductions provided by Administration be approved from the List of One Time Options to Reduce 2021 Covid-19 Impacts;

- Recommendation #38 - \$12,000 – One Time COVID-19 Costs – Outside Boards – Community Economic Development Commission (CEDC)

AND THAT the savings be applied to the Stabilization Reserve Fund as one time savings for 2021.

CARRIED

**Amending Motion - Recommendation #39 One Time COVID-19 Costs – CEDC - Tourism**

MOVED BY: Councillor Brian Hamilton  
SECONDED BY: Councillor Albert Aiello

WITH RESPECT to the Memorandum from Councillor B. Hamilton dated January 25, 2021, we recommend that the following one time reductions provided by Administration be approved from the List of One Time Options to Reduce 2021 Covid-19 Impacts;

- Recommendation #39 - \$38,200 – One Time COVID-19 Costs - Outside Boards – CEDC – Tourism

AND THAT the savings be applied to the Stabilization Reserve Fund as one time savings for 2021.

LOST

**Thunder Bay Public Library**

Councillor B. Hamilton resumed the Chair.

Dr. R. Togman, Thunder Bay Public Library Board, Ms. C. Braye, Director of Resources – Thunder Bay Public Library and Mr. J. Pateman, Chief Librarian & CEO – Thunder Bay Public Library appeared before Committee via MS Teams and responded to questions.

**Amending Motion - Thunder Bay Public Library**

Memorandum from Ms. L. Paradis, Manager – Budgets & Long-Term Planning, dated January 15, 2021 containing proposed 2021 Budget amendments, distributed separately on Thursday, January 21, 2021.

MOVED BY: Councillor Andrew Foulds  
SECONDED BY: Councillor Kristen Oliver

WITH RESPECT to Report R 1/2021 (Corporate Services and Long Term Care - Financial Services) Proposed 2021 Operating and Capital Budget we recommend that the tax supported budget be amended to reduce the Thunder Bay Public Library operating budget by \$50,000 with a corresponding reduction to the contribution from the Stabilization Reserve Fund.

CARRIED

### **TAB 1 - MAYOR & COUNCIL & GENERAL**

At the request of the Vice Chair, Councillor A. Ruberto assumed the Chair.

#### **Amending Motion - Recommendation #6 Reduction in Contribution to Reserve Fund – Clean, Green & Beautiful**

MOVED BY: Councillor Brian Hamilton  
SECONDED BY: Councillor Peng You

WITH RESPECT to the Memorandum from Councillor B. Hamilton dated January 25, 2021, we recommend that the following one time reductions provided by Administration be approved from the List of One Time Options to Reduce 2021 Covid-19 Impacts;

- Recommendation #6 - \$100,000 – Corporate – Reduction in Contribution to Reserve Fund – Clean, Green & Beautiful

AND THAT the savings be applied to the Stabilization Reserve Fund as one time savings for 2021.

LOST

#### **Permanent Thunder Bay Word Sign**

Councillor M. Bentz assumed the Chair.

At the September 14, 2020 Committee of the Whole meeting, a resolution requesting \$100,000 from the MAT reserve fund for a permanent Thunder Bay Word Sign was passed. At the October 5, 2020 city Council meeting, a resolution was passed to refer the decision relative to the Thunder Bay Word Sign to the 2021 budget process.

Memorandum from Ms. K. Power, City Clerk dated January 25, 2021 re-presenting the motion recommending the design and installation of a permanent Thunder Bay Word Sign at the waterfront, distributed separately on Wednesday, January 27, 2021.

Memorandum from Councillor R. Johnson, dated January 25, 2021 relative to the Permanent Thunder Bay Word Sign, for information, distributed separately on Wednesday, January 27, 2021.

Memorandum from Ms. K. Lewis, Director – Corporate Strategic Services, dated January 27, 2021 relative to the permanent Thunder Bay Word Sign, for information, distributed separately on Wednesday, January 27, 2021.

MOVED BY: Councillor Shelby Ch'ng  
SECONDED BY: Councillor Andrew Foulds

WITH RESPECT to the memorandum from Councillor S. Ch'ng dated August 18, 2020, we recommend the design and installation of a Permanent “Thunder Bay” Word Sign at the waterfront;

AND THAT up to \$100,000 of funding be approved through the City’s unallocated Municipal Accommodation Tax funds for the design and installation of the Permanent “Thunder Bay” Word Sign;

AND THAT any necessary by-laws be presented to City Council for ratification.

**Amending Motion - Permanent Thunder Bay Word Sign**

MOVED BY: Mayor Bill Mauro  
SECONDED BY: Councillor Brian McKinnon

WITH RESPECT to the Permanent Thunder Bay Word Sign, we recommend that the motion be amended to add ‘in principle’ to the end of the first paragraph;

AND THAT the following be added after the second paragraph:

‘AND THAT Administration report back to City Council with a status update on the project and concept of design for Council approval;’

CARRIED

**Amended Motion - Permanent Thunder Bay Word Sign**

MOVED BY: Councillor Shelby Ch'ng  
SECONDED BY: Councillor Andrew Foulds

WITH RESPECT to the memorandum from Councillor S. Ch'ng dated August 18, 2020, we recommend the design and installation of a Permanent “Thunder Bay” Word Sign at the waterfront, in principle;

AND THAT up to \$100,000 of funding be approved through the City’s unallocated Municipal Accommodation Tax funds for the design and installation of the Permanent “Thunder Bay” Word Sign;

AND THAT Administration report back to City Council with a status update on the project and concept of design for Council approval;

AND THAT any necessary by-laws be presented to City Council for ratification.

CARRIED

**TAB 2 - CITY MANAGER’S OFFICE**

At the request of the Chair, Councillor B. Hamilton assumed the Chair.

**Amending Motion - Increase in Budget – Food Strategy**

Memorandum from Councillor K. Oliver, dated January 26, 2021 containing a motion relative to providing an increase to the Food Strategy budget, distributed separately on Wednesday, January 27, 2021.

MOVED BY: Councillor Kristen Oliver

SECONDED BY: Councillor Aldo Ruberto

WITH RESPECT to Report R 1/2021 (Corporate Services and Long Term Care - Financial Services) Proposed 2021 Operating and Capital Budget we recommend that the Proposed 2021 Operating and Capital Budget be amended to provide an addition of \$15,000 to the Corporate Strategic Services Budget for the Thunder Bay and Area Food Strategy as previously requested to Council.

**Amending Motion 2 - Increase in Budget – Food Strategy**

At the request of the Vice Chair, Councillor S. Ch'ng assumed the Chair.

MOVED BY: Councillor Rebecca Johnson

SECONDED BY: Councillor Aldo Ruberto

WITH RESPECT to the amending motion relative to Increase in Budget – Food Strategy, we recommend that the following paragraph be added:

‘AND THAT the Proposed 2021 Operating and Capital Budget be amended to add \$15,000 each for the Poverty Reduction Strategy and Age Friendly Thunder Bay.’

CARRIED



**Amended Amending Motion - Increase in Budget – Food Strategy, Poverty Reduction Strategy and Age Strategy**

Councillor B. Hamilton resumed the Chair.

MOVED BY: Councillor Kristen Oliver  
SECONDED BY: Councillor Aldo Ruberto

WITH RESPECT to Report R 1/2021 (Corporate Services and Long Term Care - Financial Services) Proposed 2021 Operating and Capital Budget we recommend that the Proposed 2021 Operating and Capital Budget be amended to provide an addition of \$15,000 to the Corporate Strategic Services Budget for the Thunder Bay and Area Food Strategy as previously requested to Council;

AND THAT the Proposed 2021 Operating and Capital Budget be amended to add \$15,000 each for the Poverty Reduction Strategy and Age Friendly Thunder Bay.

CARRIED

**TAB 3 - COMMUNITY SERVICES**

**Amending Motion - Fare Free Transit Day**

Memorandum from Councillor A. Foulds, dated January 26, 2021 containing a motion relative to a monthly fare free transit day, distributed separately on Wednesday, January 27, 2021.

Memorandum from Mr. B. Loroff, Manager – Transit Services, dated January 27, 2021 relative to fare free transit, for information, distributed separately on Wednesday, January 27, 2021.

MOVED BY: Councillor Andrew Foulds  
SECONDED BY: Councillor Aldo Ruberto

WITH RESPECT to Report R 1/2021 (Corporate Services and Long Term Care - Financial Services) Proposed 2021 Operating and Capital Budget we recommend that the Proposed 2021 Operating and Capital Budget be amended to reduce transit revenue by up to \$115,000 from the Transit Budget for the implementation of a pilot project for fare free transit one day a month from March 2021 to February 2022;

AND THAT Administration be tasked with reporting back to Council on the process for implementation of monthly fare free transit day.

**Amending Motion 2 - Fare Free Transit Day**

MOVED BY: Councillor Andrew Foulds  
SECONDED BY: Councillor Cody Fraser

WITH RESPECT to the amending motion relative to Fare Free Transit Day, we recommend that the motion be amended by replacing ‘March 2021 to February 2022’ with ‘May 2021 to April 2022’.

CARRIED

**Amended Amending Motion - Fare Free Transit Day**

MOVED BY: Councillor Andrew Foulds  
SECONDED BY: Councillor Aldo Ruberto

WITH RESPECT to Report R 1/2021 (Corporate Services and Long Term Care - Financial Services) Proposed 2021 Operating and Capital Budget we recommend that the Proposed 2021 Operating and Capital Budget be amended to reduce transit revenue by up to \$115,000 from the Transit Budget for the implementation of a pilot project for fare free transit one day a month from May 2021 to April 2022;

AND THAT Administration be tasked with reporting back to Council on the process for implementation of monthly fare free transit day.

LOST

**Amending Motion - Freeze Transit Fares for 2021**

MOVED BY: Councillor Andrew Foulds  
SECONDED BY: Councillor Aldo Ruberto

WITH RESPECT to the proposed increase in fares for Transit for 2021, we recommend that the total of \$67,900 be deleted from the Proposed 2021 Operating and Capital Budget.

CARRIED

**Amending Motion - 2021 Federal Provincial Safe Restart Operating Funding**

Councillor M. Bentz resumed the Chair.

Memorandum from Ms. L. Paradis, Manager – Budgets & Long-Term Planning, dated January 15, 2021 containing proposed 2021 Budget amendments, distributed separately on Thursday, January 21, 2021.

MOVED BY: Mayor Bill Mauro  
SECONDED BY: Councillor Cody Fraser

WITH RESPECT to Report R 1/2021 (Corporate Services and Long Term Care - Financial Services) Proposed 2021 Operating and Capital Budget we recommend that the tax supported budget be amended to include \$1,240,000 in Federal Provincial Safe Restart Operating funding with a corresponding reduction to the contribution from the Stabilization Reserve Fund.

CARRIED

***ADJOURNMENT***

At 10:53 p.m. it was consensus of Committee to recess until Tuesday, February 2, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.